

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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John Kline Supports Bipartisan Efforts to Keep Faith With Our Veterans

WASHINGTON – Minnesota Congressman John Kline supported two legislative efforts this week to ensure Washington keeps faith with our veterans and their families. Both bills passed the U.S. House of Representatives with overwhelming bipartisan support.

"Promises made are promises kept and we must keep faith with America's heroes," said Kline, a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps whose son has served three tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. "One of my guiding principles in Congress is to ensure America supports our troops, veterans, and their families and I was pleased we came together in a bipartisan manner on behalf of our heroes."

The following legislation passed the House this week:

- Veterans Entrepreneurship Act of 2015 (H.R. 2499): This legislation would encourage and equip veterans in starting their own small businesses by removing barriers to capital. The legislation does this by waiving the upfront guarantee fee for a Small Business Administration 7(a) express loan all at no cost to the taxpayer.
- The Home for Heroes Act of 2015 (H.R. 251): This legislation would ensure veterans fair access to housing and homeless assistance programs by coordinating services between the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Kline will continue to champion efforts on VA reform later this month when the House will vote on the VA Accountability Act (H.R. 1994), legislation he co-sponsored, which would put veterans before bureaucrats by giving the Department of Veterans Affairs secretary sweeping new authority to fire corrupt or incompetent employees for cause. The bill comes in response to the VA's long and well documented history of not holding problem employees accountable.

Earlier this week, it was announced Kline will be receiving the Charles Dick Medal of Merit from the National Guard Association of the United States for his loyalty and commitment to the men and women of the National Guard. The award is given annually for outstanding contributions to the National Guard by an elected official. Kline was recognized for numerous provisions he championed on behalf of veterans including an effort to reverse a decision by the Pentagon which broke the promise of accessible and affordable health care benefits for our veterans.

Kline serves on the House Armed Services Committee. He also is Chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee. He and his wife, Vicky, live in Burnsville.